

REMARKS

The Examiner rejects Claims 51-55, 58-62, 65-68, 75-79, 82-84, 87-90, and 93-95 as being unpatentable over Kawamura, et al., in view of IDC Executive Brief and Vitikainen (U.S. 7,203,297); Claims 63-64, 71-74, and 85-86 under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawamura, et al., in view of IDC Executive Brief as applied above; claims 56, 80, and 91 under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawamura, et al., IDC Executive Brief, and Vitikainen, et al., as applied above, and further in view of Archer (U.S. 6,683,870); claim 69 under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawamura, et al., and IDC Executive Brief and further in view of Archer; claims 57, 81, and 92 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawamura, et al., IDC Executive Brief, and Vitikainen, et al., as applied above, and further in view of Rasansky, et al., (U.S. 5,960,406); and claim 70 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawamura, et al., IDC Executive Brief, and Vitikainen, et al., as applied above, and further in view of Rasansky, et al.

These rejections are now moot in view of the cancellation of Claims 1-50.

Nonetheless, Applicant will distinguish the cited references from the newly added claims 51-95.

The cited references fail to teach or suggest at least the following italicized features in the pending independent claims:

51. A method for contacting a first user using a packet-switched communication, comprising:

(a) receiving, *by a packet switched network*, a request from a second user for *web page associated with the first user*; and

(b) providing, *by the packet switched network*, the second user with the *web page*, wherein at least one of the following is true:

(B1) *the provided web page comprises at least one of a current physical location of the first user, current contact options for the first user, and a current activity of the first user, wherein the at least one of a current physical location of the first user, current contact options for the first user, and a current activity of the first user is varied depending on the identity of the requestor;*

(B2) the provided web page comprises a plurality of contact options to contact the first user and *an activatable icon to initiate a contact to the first user by an option selected by the second user*, the contact options being a plurality of an email, a facsimile, a voice mail, an instant message, a pager, and a

telephone call, wherein the specific contact options provided to requestors are depending on the identity of the requestor;

(B3) the provided web page comprises a personalized message for the second user, the personalized message being provided only to selected requestors but not to all requestors; and

(B4) the provided web page comprises one or more fields for receiving a text message from the second user for the first user, wherein the inputted text message is converted automatically into a voice message for the first user at the request of the second user.

63. A method for contacting a first user using a packet-switched communication, comprising:

receiving, by a packet switched network, a request from a second user for a web page associated with the first user;

providing the second user with the web page, wherein the web page comprises one or more fields for receiving an inputted text message for the first user;

receiving from the second user, by the web page, an inputted text message for the first user;

receiving a command to forward the inputted text message to the first user by a selected communication option, the selected communication option being at least one of a live voice call and voice mail;

converting automatically the inputted text message into a corresponding audio stream; and

sending the corresponding audio stream to at least one of a live voice communication device and a voice mail repository associated with the first user.

75. A system for contacting a first user using a packet-switched communication, comprising:

(a) a network server operable to receive, by a packet switched network, a request from a second user for a web page of the first user; and

(b) a resource manager operable to provide, by the packet switched network, the second user with the web page of the first user, wherein at least one of the following is true:

(B1) the provided web page comprises at least one of a current physical location of the first user, current contact options for the first user, and a current activity of the first user, wherein the at least one of a current physical location of the first user, current contact options for the first user, and a current activity of the first user is varied depending on the identity of the requestor;

(B2) the provided web page comprises a plurality of contact options to contact the first user and an activatable icon to initiate a contact to the first user by an option selected by the second user, the contact options being a plurality of an email, a facsimile, a voice mail, an instant message, a pager, and a telephone call, wherein the specific contact options provided to requestors are depending on the identity of the requestor;

(B3) *the provided web page comprises a personalized message for the second user, the personalized message being provided only to selected requestors but not to all requestors; and*

(B4) *the provided web page comprises one or more fields for receiving a text message from the second user for the first user, wherein the inputted text message is converted automatically into a voice message for the first user at the request of the second user.*

85. A system for contacting a first user using a packet-switched communication, comprising:

a network server operable to receive, by a *packet switched network*, a request from a second user for a *web page* of the first user;

a resource manager operable (a) receive, by a packet switched network, a request from a second user for the *web page* associated with the first user; (b) provide the second user with the *web page*, wherein the *web page* comprises one or more fields for receiving an inputted text message for the first user; (c) receive from the second user, by the *web page*, an inputted text message for the first user; (d) receive a command to forward the inputted text message to the first user by a selected communication option, the selected communication option being at least one of a live voice call and voice mail; (e) convert automatically the inputted text message into a corresponding audio stream; and (f) send the corresponding audio stream to at least one of a live voice communication device and a voice mail repository associated with the first user.

Element (B1) of Claims 63 and 52 (see also claims 65, 66, 75-76, and 87-88).

The Examiner asserts that this element is taught by Kawamura's Figure 10.

According to the Examiner, Figure 10 of Kawamura teaches a current physical location and activity of the first user (software development presence/absence) and current activity of the first user (software development presence/absence and current contact options (telephone numbers, voice message, and message mail)).

Applicant disagrees.

Regarding current *physical* location, Figure 10 shows simply the first user's *logical* location. The logical location is the first user's electronic address. The display says *nothing* about the physical location of the first user.

Regarding current *activity*, Figure 10 does *not* say what the first user is currently doing. It simply provides his logical location.

Kawamura does not *vary the current physical location, current activity, or current contact options depending on the identity of the requestor*. Kawamura teaches providing identical information about the first user to all requestors, regardless of identity.

Element (B2) of Claims 63 and 53 (see also claims 65, 67, 75, 77, 87, and 89).

The Examiner asserts that Figure 10 of Kawamura teaches the contact options of telephone call, voice message, and message mail.

Kawamura does not *vary the contact options depending on the identity of the requestor*. Kawamura teaches providing identical contact options about the first user to all requestors, regardless of identity.

Element (B3) of Claims 63 and 54 (see also claims 65, 67, 75, 77, 87, and 89).

The Examiner asserts that personal messages to designated second users are explicitly taught by Vitikainen, et al., and therefore that it would be obvious to modify Kawamura, et al., to include these teachings and realize the claimed invention.

Although Vitikainen, et al., do teach, in Figure 3, leaving personal messages for differing designated calling subscriber terminals, Kawamura teaches leaving a bulletin board on a LAN that does not leave messages to subscribers. Kawamura, et al., thus teach providing a common display to all local users, regardless of identity. This is so because the system is designed for subscribers to an enterprise network while the system of Vitikainen, et al., is designed for both nonsubscribers and subscribers calling in on a telephone network or WAN. Moreover, Vitikainen, et al., are directed to an interface to *provide* messages to callers while Kawamura, et al., are directed to an interface to *receive* messages from contactors. It would not be obvious to combine the two systems, which have very different purposes and applications.

Element (B4) of Claims 63 and 55 (see also claims 63, 75, 79, and 85).

The Examiner asserts that Figure 10 includes a field for receiving inputted text messages for transmission as electronic mail; that IDC Executive Brief teaches providing a number of options for transmitting text messages by using a speech interface for converting text to voice; and that it would be obvious to modify the architecture of Kawamura, et al., to incorporate the speech conversion capability of the IDC Executive Brief.

This combination is still deficient. Neither reference teaches converting automatically a text message to a voice mail message. Kawamura, et al., teaches no conversion between speech and text while the IDC Executive Brief mentions only at one location that users “can listen to and send emails by speaking into the phone.” Although not explicit, it appears that the email text is converted into an equivalent audio stream provided to the remote user. The IDC Executive Brief is in the context of remote worker access and says nothing about converting email text to speech for deposit in a user’s voice mail, let alone doing this as part of a personalized web interface.

Nor would it be obvious to modify the teachings of the IDC Executive Brief with those of Kawamura, et al. IDC Executive Brief is intended to provide a remote user with convenient access to various types of information through speech commands. The point of the Brief is to *avoid* the remote user from having to type in text. (IDC Executive Brief at page 2, 4, and 5.) Kawamura, et al., teach manually typing the text in a message text box. Combining the references would frustrate the purpose of the IDC Executive Brief and would therefore not be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

The dependent claims provide further bases for allowability.

By way of example, dependent claims 59 and 83 require the web page to comprise a plurality of communication options for selection by the second user, the communication options to comprise at least one of a voice mail and telephone call, the at least one of voice mail and a telephone call to be selected by the second user, and a text-to-speech engine operable to convert the inputted text message into a corresponding audio message; and wherein the resource manager is further operable to forward the corresponding audio message to the first user by the selected at least one of voice mail and a telephone call.

Dependent claims 60, 72, 84, and 94 require the resource manager to authenticate the identification of the second user and apply one or more rules to select a web page configuration to be provided to the second user, the rules requiring differing web page configurations to be provided to differing requestors. Kawamura, et al., teach providing a common display to all requestors, regardless of identity. Although the Examiner cites Kawamura, et al., he nowhere indicates that Kawamura, et al., teach varying the display based on requestor identity.

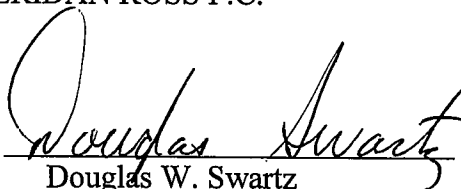
Based on the foregoing, Applicants believe that all pending claims are in condition for allowance and such disposition is respectfully requested. In the event that a telephone conversation would further prosecution and/or expedite allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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